

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-11 (canceled)

Claim 12. (currently amended) A method comprising inserting a watermark into at least one derived image, including the steps of:

providing a source digital image having at least one image plane, each said image plane being represented by an array having pixel brightness data for a plurality of pixels, each of said pixels having at least one color component and having a pixel position;

specifying the horizontal and vertical dimensions of a bounding rectangle,

determining an enlargement or reduction first factor f_1 that, if applied, would resize the source image by enlargement or reduction of its horizontal and vertical dimensions so that the resized image is a largest replica of said digitized image fitting entirely within the bounding rectangle;

forming an adjusted invisible image watermark that is enlarged ~~of~~ or reduced by a second factor f_2 ;

resizing the source image by enlargement or reduction of its horizontal and vertical dimensions by a combined factor, f_1 times f_2 , to form an alternative adjusted digital image.

Claim 13. (original) A method as recited in claim 12, further comprising inserting into said alternative adjusted digital image said adjusted invisible image watermark.

Claim 14. (currently amended) A method as recited in ~~claim 1~~ claim 12, wherein the factor f_2 is greater than 0.1.

Claim 15. (original) An article of manufacture comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein for causing watermark insertion, the computer readable

program code means in said article of manufacture comprising computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect the steps of claim 12.

Claim 16. (original) A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for watermarking, said method steps comprising the steps of claim 12.

Claims 17-21 (canceled)